

Press History

Awards, for Many Happy Returns



In the Press

Full Reviews of Prior Runs

- A View from the Box
<https://aviewfromthebox.net/2024/08/15/bears-in-the-citys-many-happy-returns/>
- No Proscenium
<https://www.noproscenium.com/immersive-review-rundown-time-travel-murder-democracy/>

A View from the Box
Your Resource for Reviews and News about Toronto Performing Arts!

"I had such an amazing time at this production...
... to take it to the level where the audience is collaborating not only with the performers but with each other as well is marvellous. The atmosphere is fun and lighthearted, and it's delightful to see how creative other attendees get with attempting to get these artifacts.
... These performers are masterful at what they do; they have to somewhat guide us towards the right paths while also keeping up the mystery and fun of it all. Truly, my hat's off to them!
... If you're feeling like a fun and glamorous night out, Many Happy Returns is the show for you!
... you definitely won't want to miss out on Many Happy Returns."
—Janine Marley

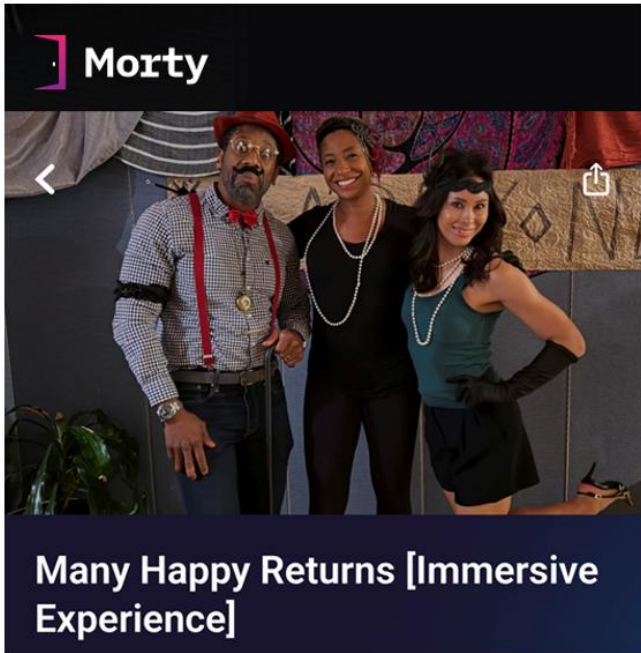
Google
Many Happy Returns
214 King St W, Toronto, ON
5.0 ★★★★★

No Proscenium
The Guide To Everything Immersive

"The brilliance of Many Happy Returns lies in the many branches of the story, as well as the script and cast's ability to improvise around audience interactions...
... collaborating alongside the audience was a breath of fresh air
... a genuine sense of camaraderie as we unlocked pieces of the puzzle
... collaborative social puzzling, well-executed improvisation, and fitting setting at Toronto speakeasy A Toi
... a time loop I'd happily experience over and over and over again."
—Katrina Lat, Toronto Curator

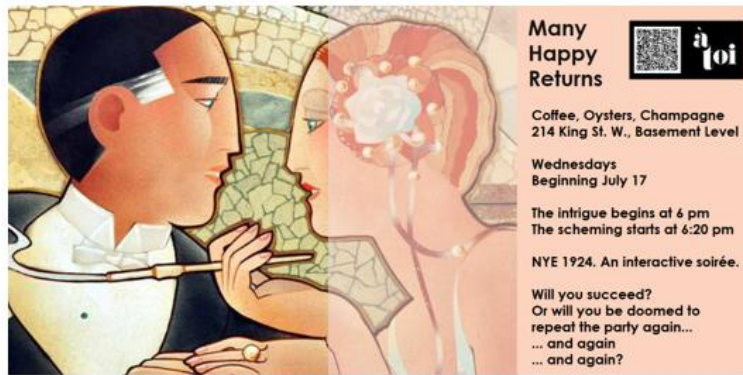
"Better than an escape room!"
—Audience Testimonial

Congratulations to all the winners and nominees. The effort you have put in to make exceptional work has made the world a better place, and we hope to see what comes from you next!
— Noah Nelson, Publisher, No Proscenium



*Photo taken from public site, <https://morty.app/>, uploaded by user.

Six Prior Runs throughout Toronto since 2024! Sold out runs! Over 450 tickets sold to date with ongoing production!



*Photo top right by Julie Cohn, from public performance at A Toi, including consenting audience and cast members, left to right: Jing Cui, Kat Welsh (former cast member).



Many Happy Returns!
Interactive Theatre

Tuesday
February
11th
doors at
7p.m.

Many Happy Returns is a group based interactive, immersive performance with items to find, mysterious guests to encounter, and mysteries to unravel.

Get your tickets now!

Can you change history?

Junction Craft Taproom
150 Symes Road

Brought to you by
INTRIGUE BEARS! In The City!



MANY HAPPY RETURNS

A 90 Minute Immersive Experience

Tuesdays:
Sept. 16, 2025
Sept. 23, 2025
Sept. 30, 2025

The plotting begins at 7
The conspiring starts at 7:30

Brought to you by:
BEARS! In The City!
INTRIGUE SOCIETY CLUBHOUSE

Many Happy Returns BEARS! In The City! WINNER 2025 NO PROSCENIUM AWARDS TORONTO

TRAPPED
PRESENTS...
A 90 MINUTE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025
SEPTEMBER 17, 2025
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

PLOTTING BEGINS AT 7
CONSPIRING BEGINS AT 7:30

BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
BEARS! In The City! INTRIGUE

PROGRAMME

Many Happy Returns BEARS! In The City! WINNER 2025 NO PROSCENIUM AWARDS TORONTO

*Photos, clockwise from top right: by Julie Cohn, from public performance at Marked, including Kat Welsh (former cast); by Michael Kam, including cast members, left to right: Anjali Rai, Karen Scora, Julie Cohn, Jing Cui, and Karley Kowalski (former cast); by Kristine Harding, including cast members, left to right: Tamika Poetzsch (former cast), Karen Scora, Karley Kowalski (former cast), Anjali Rai, Julie Cohn, and Bonnie Caine (former cast).

Benefit Show for Glad Day Books! Performers donated their time to give back to our community



GLAD DAY

BOOKS ▾ COFFEE ▾ COCKTAILS

GLAD DAY Presents: a special benefit performance!

Many Happy Returns

Monday, September 9, 2024, at GLAD DAY BOOKS, 499 Church St.

The plotting begins at 8
The conspiring starts at 8:30

NYE 1924. An interactive soiree.

Will you succeed?
Or will you be doomed to repeat the party again...
... and again
... and again?

A 90 Minute Immersive Experience
Brought to you by

Over \$1800 raised for



Glad Day Bookshop is the oldest queer bookstore in the world. Serving the LGBTQ community since 1970, we offer the widest possible selection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, two-spirit, and queer literature.

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Testimonials

"I cannot thank you enough for the incredible experience... Your leadership, marked by transparency, vision, dedication, and kindness, made it truly unforgettable... The show opened my eyes to the possibilities of immersive theater."

-Jing C., Performer

"I have honestly cherished every single moment of this experience and it has forever changed me. Thank you for exposing me to the wonderful, whirlwind wild world of immersive theatre... You inspire me."

-Karley S., Performer

"Thank you so much for your commitment, dedication and hard work Julie. It is truly such a joyful experience doing this show, because you have set us up for success each and every time."

-Karex S., Performer

"Julie, we wouldn't have set foot in the door of COC let alone leave hundreds of theatre lovers happy and renewed of spirit without your impassioned advocacy and vision. Thank you a million for bringing us all together for the most fun and fulfilling summer project of my life!"

-Kat W., Performer

"THANK YOU SO MUCH! It was so wonderful... excellent...! I appreciate you all so much."

-Tianna H., Community Outreach and Event Coordinator, Glad Day Bookshop

Past Press for Other Shows: BEARS! In The City! and Julie Cohn

❖ Best of Fringe ❖

Meet Cute – Direction, for ENT and V.TAV Productions, Toronto Fringe

TORONTO CENTRE FOR THE ARTS ABOUT WHAT'S ON EVENT CALENDAR PROGRAMS RENTALS TICKETS VISIT US FAQ CONTACT

BEST OF FRINGE 2015
Studio Theatre
From July 15, 2015 - July 29, 2015
Presented by Toronto Centre for the Arts

The Toronto Centre for the Arts is excited to announce the return of the Best of the Fringe

MEET CUTE
Studio Theatre
From July 24, 2015 - July 26, 2015
Presented by Erin Novah Thompson Entertainment & V.TAV Productions

The "Meet Cute"... it's how all the rom-coms begin. Some of the behaviour in those movies isn't cute at all, but the road to dating is paved with good intentions. Meet Cute is a "romantic" comedy about a boy-meets-girl, girl-meets-boy. One story told three ways with an even happier ever after.



*Press Photo, taken from Best of Fringe site, 2015, including cast members, left to right: Erin Norah Thompson, Jesse Bond.

Is That How Clowns Have Sex? – Co-Creation & Direction, for Maximaliste Productions, National Fringe Tour

blogTO

How Do Clowns Sex? **EXTING HER OUT**

ROOKIE REVIEWS Five first-time critics, also students at U of T, review the Fringe. **ENTERTAINMENT & LIFE**

Maximaliste Productions Presents: **IS THAT HOW CLOWNS HAVE SEX?** Starring: Fiona Ross Directed By: Julie Cohn

MAXIMALISTE productions **FRINGE FESTIVAL** **kink. BDSM Boutique**

Is That How Clowns Have Sex? A One-Woman, Queer Clown Sex-Ed Show will be staged at King Toront. Photo courtesy Pascale Yensen.

In an adult entertainment store

Learn a bit more during this sex-ed class than you did in middle school by taking in **Is That How Clowns Have Sex? A One-Woman, Queer Clown Sex-Ed Show** at adult entertainment store Kink Toronto, near Bloor and Dovercourt.

Sorry mom, I learned more from a clown than from you.

Is That How Clowns Have Sex? is a clever, hilarious and genuinely informative one-clown show featuring "sexpert" Miss Bea Haven (Fiona Ross). Framed as a sex ed class, Ross explores vibrators, dental dams and Freud with a charming innocence that defuses potential discomfort. Notable moments include parodies of standard sex ed's inadequacies, using dildos as puppets; and a pantomimed one-night stand critiquing queer stereotypes. Although the BDSM emphasis of the venue, Kink Boutique, goes overlooked, and the question-answer format quickly becomes repetitive, the show sensitively concludes with Ross answering audience questions out of character. Not to be missed!

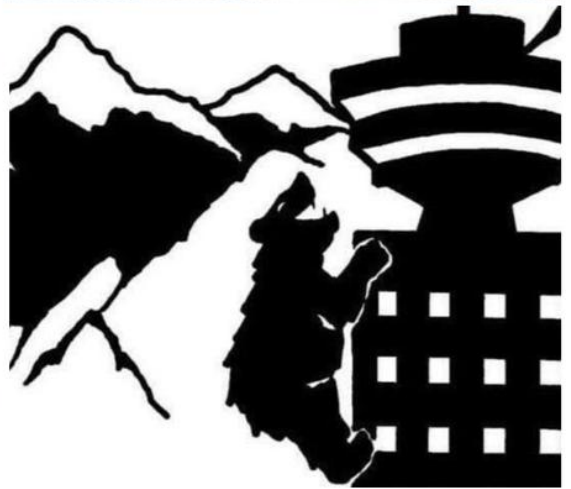
—Max Fearon

*Press Photos, taken from blogTO, Toronto Star, and Toronto Fringe sites, 2018, including performer Fiona Ross.

❖ Five Favourite Fringe Shows: Vancouverscape ❖

Sorry 'Bout That. – Devising, Direction, & Acting, for BEARS! In The City!, National Fringe Tour

BEARS! In The City!



FRINGE

BEARS! In The City! presents:
Sorry 'Bout That.

Show times:
 * Fri, July 19, 9:00 pm
 * Sat, July 20, 7:30 pm
 * Sun, July 21, 12:30 pm
 * Tue, July 23, 9:00 pm
 * Wed, July 24, 8:00 pm
 * Fri, July 26, 4:30 pm
 * Sat, July 27, 6:30 pm

Tickets \$10 + \$4 Fringe Button

For Tickets and info: <http://hamiltonfringe.ca/>
<https://www.facebook.com/bearsinthecitytheatre>

Hamilton Theatre Inc., 140 Macnab St. N., Hamilton



VANCOUVERSCAPE
 Five Fave Fringe Shows So Far 2013
Sorry 'Bout That. From the moment I'd read the press release, I was intrigued. The play's light-hearted tone does in fact bring the struggle between man and beast into the limelight. The play's program suggests that the story can also be compared to that of an immigrant assimilating into a new culture. Something as natural as finding a damp squirrel for a late-night snack may seem normal in a bear's world, but it's out of the question for ours. Just wait and see what trouble Little Bear gets into during the show. As a production, *Sorry 'Bout That.* has potential. And we could all learn a thing or two about how bears might view our world.

FRINGE
 Festival 2013
 September 5-11

BEARS! In The City!
 presents:
Sorry 'Bout That.

Written and performed by
Julie Cohn
 &
Anjali Rai

Performance dates, times, and location:
 False Creek Gym, 1318 Cartwright St., Vancouver, BC - Venue 4
 Fri, Sept. 6, 6:35 p.m. • Sat, Sept. 7, 8:50 p.m. • Sun, Sept. 8, 1:30 p.m.
 Wed, Sept. 11, 8:40 p.m. • Thurs, Sept. 12, 5 p.m. • Sat, Sept. 14, 3:05 p.m.

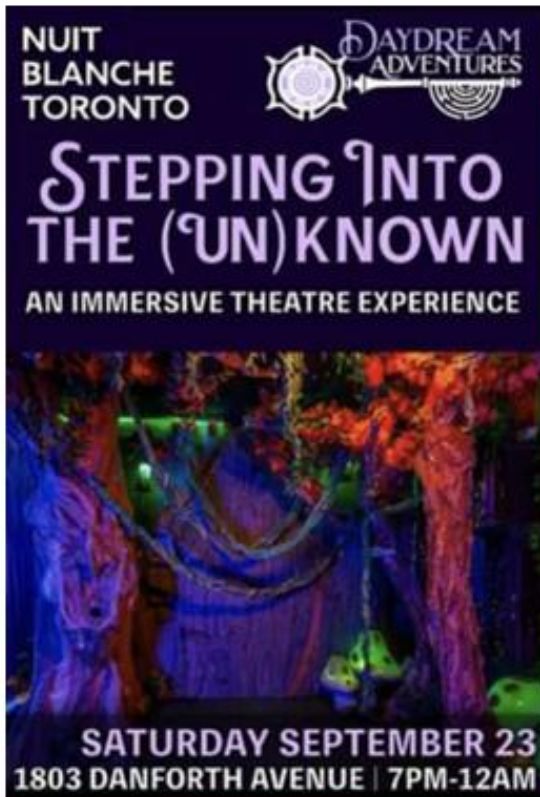
Tickets available at www.vancouverfringe.com/show/13NMF7/

A 55 First Vancouver Neighbourhood Society (FNS) membership is needed to gain access to the Fringe Festival. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of limited bear hats to benefit and fundraise for the bear. The performance runs 60 minutes.

*Photos are of performer Julie Cohn, clockwise from top right by: Andre "Anthony" Singh, Anjali Rai, Kayla Whelan, Andre "Anthony" Singh.

Stepping into the Un(known) – Devising & Direction, for IntrigueX

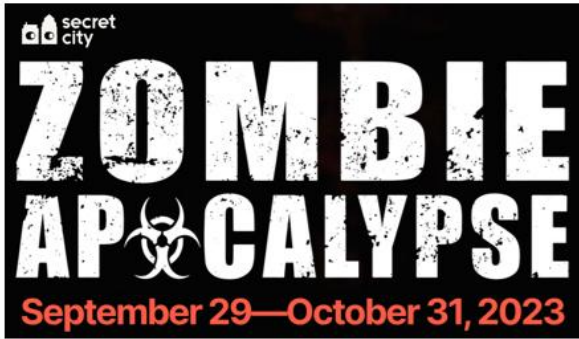
- Debuted in Toronto as a workshop performance at Nuit Blanche, to an hours-long line up around the block, and included back to back, sold-out performances, for over 5 hours!



*Photos by Julie Cohn, clockwise from top right: including consenting audience and cast members Aurora McClennan (left), Pamela Balint (bottom right).

Zombie Apocalypse – Direction, for Secret City

- 5000+ tickets sold!



*Press photos taken from Secret City website, including cast members, top to bottom, left to right: Noelle Gunhouse, Tanis Korzekwa, Anjali Rai.

Within Its Shell – Co-Creation & Immersive Design, for Outside the March & SummerWorks

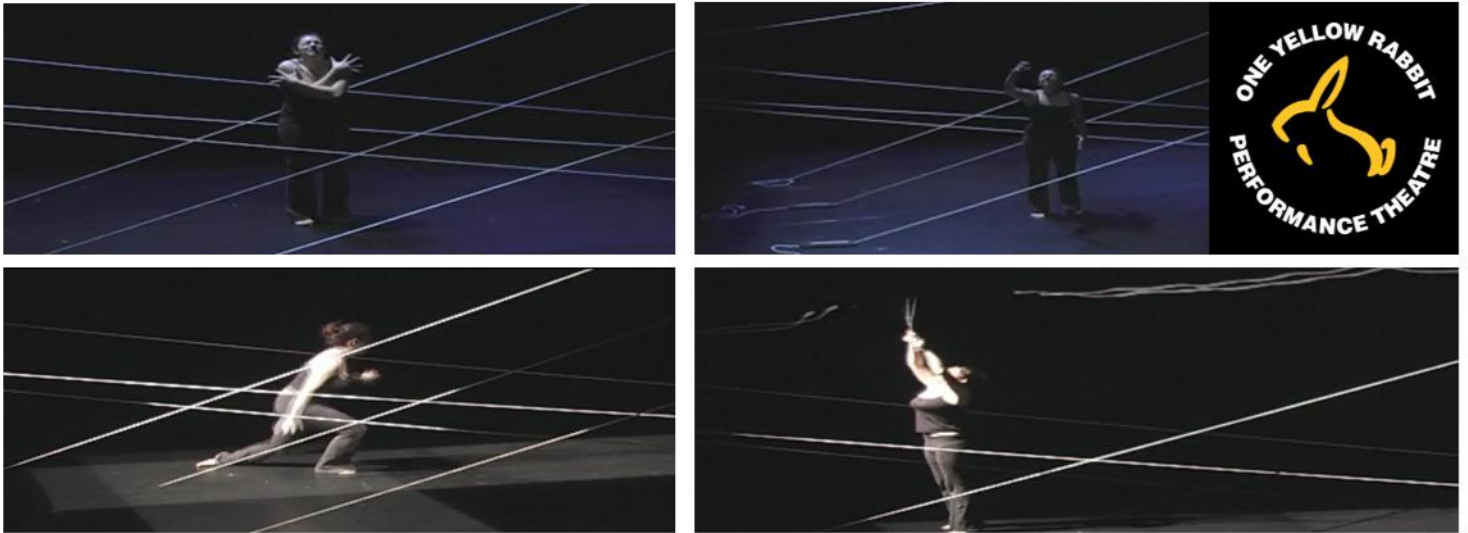
- Created for the renowned SummerWorks Performance Festival with one of Toronto's leading immersive theatre companies, Outside the March



*Press photo taken from Outside the March website, from public outdoor performance, including consenting audience.

Binds that Tie – Creation, for One Yellow Rabbit, Calgary

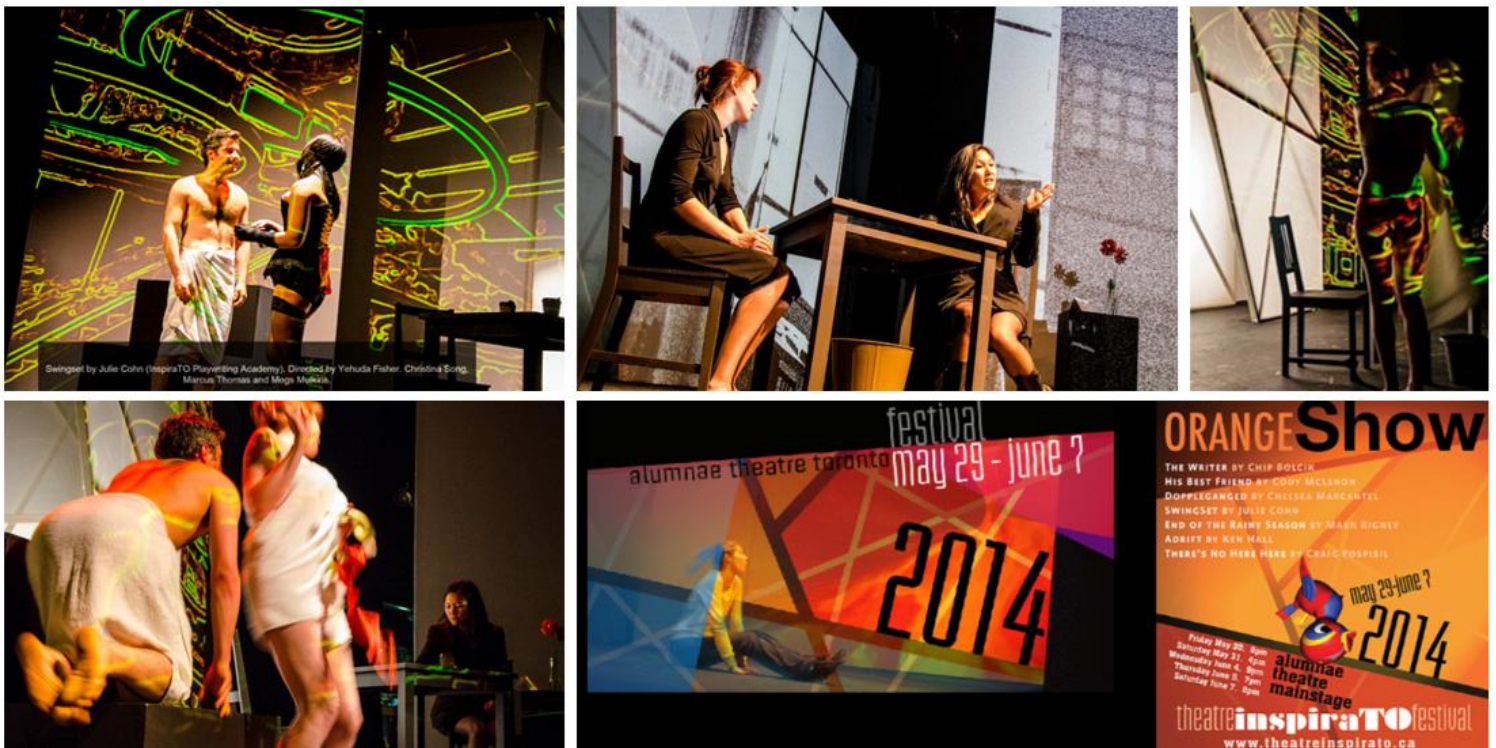
- Created at the esteemed One Yellow Rabbit Summer Lab in Calgary



*Photos of performer Julie Cohn, by Judi Wensel.

SwingSet – Writing & Design, for InspiraTO Festival

- Created at the renowned Writers' Lab and Selected as a Festival Participant for Best Shows



*Press photos taken from InspiraTO website, including cast members, clockwise from top left: Marcus Colby, Christina Song; Megs Mulkins, Christina Song; Megs Mulkins; Press photo; (left to right) Marcus Colby, Megs Mulkins, Christina Song.